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Dated: January 22, 2007

Signature:

(Lawrence E. Russ)

EXPEDITED PROCEDURE

Group Art Unit: 2157

Docket No.: SONYJP 3.0-748

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of: :
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Toshiyuki Arai :
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Application No.: 09/781,496 : Group Art Unit: 2157
:
:
Filed: February 12, 2001 : Examiner: B. N. Burgess
:
:
For: INFORMATION PROCESSING APPARATUS :
AND METHOD :

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 CFR 1.116

MS AF
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated October 20, 2006, finally rejecting claims 1-9, and 20, please amend the above-identified U.S. patent application as follows: